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Carleton Ravens' players Kevin Churchill, front, and Justin Shaver battle for a rebound during practice at the Metro Centre on Thursday. Carleton, the defending champion, will open its title defence with a Friday afternoon game against the Acadia Axemen. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

# Ravens right at home in Halifax

## Court domination?

Carleton has won six of its seven national basketball championships at the Metro Centre



**MATTHEW WUEST**  
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One of the most dominating runs in Canadian sport could reach new heights this weekend in Halifax.

The Carleton Ravens, no stranger to basketball fans in this city over the past decade, are once again the headliners at the Final 8 Canadian Interuniversity Sport men's basketball championship at the Metro Centre.

Not only are they the top-ranked team, they're chasing their eighth national title in the past 10 years, a mark that would tie the Victoria Vikes for the most in CIS history.

It's a piece of history Carleton doesn't take lightly.

"It would be pretty cool — eight national championships is something that not many people can say they were a part of," said fifth-year guard Elliot Thompson, a Fredericton native and the lone Maritimer on Carleton's roster.

"I think our guys do think about that. It's not our main focus, but it would be cool."

Carleton, which hosted the Final 8 from 2008 through 2010 and will get it back in 2013 and 2014, has captured six consecutive championships at the Metro Centre dating back to 2003, a run of 18 straight non-consolation wins.

The Ravens, who face the eighth-seeded Acadia Axemen in Friday's quarter-finals at 2:15 p.m., might be bringing their best team yet to Halifax.

With five starters back from last year's Final 8 champion, they're undefeated in 33 games against CIS competition this season with an unheard-of 38.6-point average margin of victory.

"Having all five starters back, plus some red-shirt additions challenging us

## The numbers game

- **Falling.** Last year's three-day Final 8 attendance of 20,504 was the lowest on record at the Metro Centre, slipping under the previous low of 22,745 set in 1997.
- **Good years.** It was 25,834 in 2007 following back-to-back years of 30,000-plus people.

in practice, it's really helped us take our game to the next level," Thompson said.

While there's no telling when the tournament will be back in Halifax, Thompson said he and his teammates love it here — just in case their success hadn't already told you that.

"It's awesome here, they do a great job," Thompson said. "Everyone's supportive and friendly and they have a great fanbase. It seems like the whole city just comes together for it."

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 32

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# Transit talks back on Friday

**Strike.** Negotiating session to be the first between the two sides since Feb. 8



JENNIFER  
TAPLIN  
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Both sides in the transit strike are meeting Friday morning.

After a day of back and forth on the union's request to have the city's latest offer emailed before making a decision on returning to the table, Metro Transit said an agreement was made and talks are scheduled for 9:30 a.m.

Union local president Ken Wilson could not be reached for comment on Thursday evening and a union member at their Dartmouth headquarters said they are not commenting on the return to negotiations.

But earlier in the day, Wilson said he would go back to the table only if he received a copy of the offer by email first.

"Assuming it's a new offer and not back at square

## Rostering

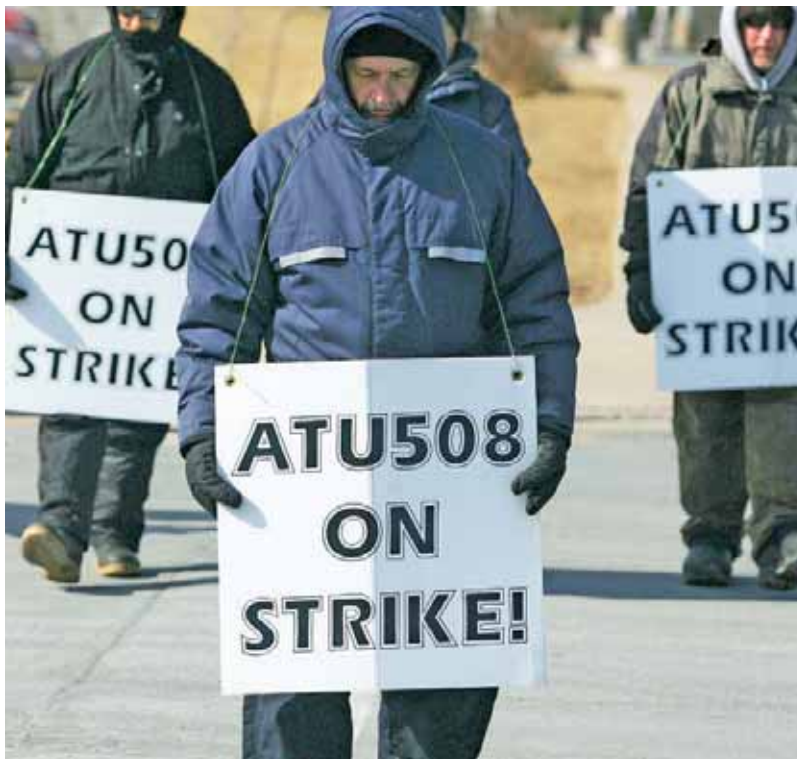
- **Sticking point.** The issue of rostering continues to remain the biggest sticking point between the two sides. The city wants a new shift-distributing system and the union doesn't.
- **A must have.** The municipality has said rostering is a must have in any deal that gets done, something the union has balked at to this point.

one," he said.

Shaune MacKinlay, HRM spokeswoman, said staff spoke to the conciliator several times on Wednesday, but did not send the document via email.

"Because our objective is to take the latest package and present it at the table where it becomes a starting point to discussion," she said.

"We have had this volleying back and forth of offers and that hasn't resulted in a deal yet, so we think it would be most constructive to be at the table and present it there."



Striking Metro Transit workers walk the picket line at the Portland Hills Terminal in this photo from last month.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

## Big help to Dalhousie University negotiations



Dalhousie University

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

The province handed Dalhousie University a major break Thursday to possibly avoid two strikes.

Administration is currently negotiating with the Dalhousie faculty association, which represents 870 faculty, professional librarians, psychologists and counsellors, as well as NSGEU Local 77, a union representing 846 support staff.

Key in both negotiations is the pension plan. Administration wanted to switch to a jointly-sponsored program because legislation ties solvency relief to only those kinds of plans, but

the province changed the rules Thursday.

"The solvency deficit amounted to about \$50 million a year ... Now they can get that exemption, save that \$50 million without requiring us to change our pension plan governance structure," said Anthony Stewart, Dalhousie faculty association president.

Since the province has made university plans exempt from the solvency test, they won't have to pay that \$50 million into the plan, but they'll still have to meet a longer term test.

"It was considered for some time," said Barbara

Jones-Gordon, executive director of conciliation services for the province.

"It was considered important to let Dal plan sponsors know so they could consider it as they're going forward."

The talks at Dalhousie aren't over, but Stewart said the change will help. "We're much better off in terms of trying to get a deal," he said.

Joan Jessome, NSGEU president, said she expects a call back to the table soon.

"It could resolve the contract," she said. "But we're not sure if the solvency is

## Potential strike

- **Deal.** If no deals are reached in either dispute, Dalhousie University faculty could strike as early as Monday, while support staff could strike on March 22.

as big an issue as getting control of the plan."

Charles Crosby, Dalhousie University spokesman, said it's a welcome development but he doesn't know what impact it will have on the discussions.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO

# 1

NEWS

On the web

## Fragile Fukushima

Nearly one year after the tsunami hit Japan, the Fukushima power plant remains fragile, crews continue cleaning the city and officials constantly test the food and water. How residents are dealing with the fear of radiation: metronews.ca/video



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# 'Czech bride' radio contest draws protesters to station

**Controversy.** The winner of Q104's the Male is in the Czech contest to be announced on Monday



ALY THOMSON  
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"Women cannot be won."

That's the message protesters were chanting outside Q104's headquarters Thursday in response to the radio station's controversial The Male is in the Czech contest.

About 30 people, both men and women, protested under the watchful eyes of Q104 employees, who looked down upon the protest from the top floor windows of their office on Kempt Road.

"Czech your privilege," "My gender is not a currency" and "End your show" were just of a few of the signs that protesters waved around a small patch of grass at intersection of Kempt and Lady Hammond Roads.

## On sex trafficking claims

"If we had discovered in our diligence that there was any connection between what we're doing and any kind of sex trafficking, we would have pulled the contest immediately."

J.C. Douglas, program director at Q104

The station's contest — dubbed on the Q website as a "mail-order bride" giveaway — closed Thursday, which also happened to be International Women's Day.

Winners of the contest will fly to Prague, where they will participate in four pre-planned dates through the Flying Hearts International Dating Service, which, according to its website, gives men the opportunity to "meet many beautiful, educated and devoted Czech and Eastern European women ... for friendship, long-term relationship and marriage."

Derrick Dixon, an organizer of the protest, said the contest is sexist and wants the station to cancel it.



Protesters gather in front of the Q104 radio station as they call for an end to the Male is in the Czech contest. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

"It really saddens me that they are doing this," he said amongst the bustle. "It saddens me that it has come to this point where we're actually out here yelling at them to stop it."

The protesters hailed

a number of supportive honks from vehicles passing through.

But the station isn't making any apologies. J.C. Douglas, Q104's program director, said that "while we welcome the publicity"

he doesn't understand why the station is being associated with sex trafficking.

"There's a difference between sexy and sexism," said Douglas. "The responses I've had from people in the Czech Republic ... they seem perplexed at the attitude in Canada that the Czech Republic is some third-world nation where they can't even have a reputable online dating service without it being connected to this grimy underworld."



Halifax MP Megan Leslie speaks at a press conference in January. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

## MP finds women's-rights cause in shock-jock radio, incites ovation

Halifax MP Megan Leslie has got thousands of hits on YouTube for her House of Commons statement denouncing Q104's controversial the Male is in the Czech contest.

Speaking before the House in Ottawa on Wednesday, Leslie said that Q104 is "using damaging ideas about foreign women's sexuality to titillate Canadian listeners."

"Who would have thought that in 2012 women would

be able to run for election, have successful careers and be given away as prizes in radio morning contests," she said, prompting a male voice to yell out "shame."

"As a woman, I am furious."

Her statement prompted a standing ovation from the MPs around her, and garnered a flurry of national attention.

Social media was also abuzz with praise and per-

secution for Leslie's remarks.

"Well done Megan. Q104 is the worst man," @pryan2112 wrote on Twitter.

Meanwhile, @MrSteveSherwood wrote, "Too bad she didn't do any research on what the contest really is. Megan Leslie is totally wrong. Foolish statement."

Q104 has continuously defended the contest and even posted the video of Leslie's statement on their website

with the tagline, "Yikes!! Megan ... it's just a little bit of fun!!"

J.C. Douglas, the station's program director, said the contest offers four pre-planned dates "that could potentially lead to marriage" with women that have signed up for the Flying Hearts dating service. He said he never imagined the station would be accused of sex trafficking.

ALY THOMSON

## Education

### Premier's figures show increase in number of teachers

The Nova Scotia premier's office has released revised figures showing an increase in the number of teachers employed in the province in the last decade.

On Wednesday, Premier Darrell Dexter said the prov-



Darrell Dexter RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

ince has 100 more teachers than it did 10 years ago.

But spokeswoman Jennifer Stewart says updated figures show the province has 361 more teachers than it did in 2001-02.

In an email, Stewart says Dexter's figure was an estimate from last year and teaching staffing levels have since been revised.

She says in the last 10 years, enrolment has dropped by 27,722 students.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Weapons charges

### Man arrested for pointing a firearm after cops called to home

Halifax police arrested a man for pointing a gun at another man early Thursday morning.

Halifax RCMP say they got the call shortly after midnight and responded to an address

on Petpeswick Drive in Gaetz Brook. They found an "a very aggressive and resistive 47-year-old male," according to a release.

Officers arrested the man and police say they seized a rifle as well as several knives and swords.

The man is facing charges of pointing a firearm, possession of a dangerous weapon, resisting arrest, uttering threats and possession of a prohibited firearm.

METRO

## No arrests

### Convenience store robbed

Police say the Needs convenience store on Sackville Drive in Lower Sackville was robbed early Thursday morning. Halifax RCMP say the store was broken into sometime between 12:15 and 5:45 a.m. Cash and cigarettes were stolen with the store closed at the time the break-in took place. METRO



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## Atlantic Lottery review. Wins by insiders within range, but should be watched

Reviews of the Atlantic Lottery Corp. have found the number of winners with some tie to the Crown company is within a natural range, but one warns that certain wins could require more scrutiny.

The reviews also found that Atlantic Lottery uses proper controls to mitigate the risk of insider wins.

But one of the reports by a statistical-analysis professor said the corporation should keep a close eye on the rate of wins of at least \$25,000 by so-called non-arm's-length players.

Those are defined as people who sell lottery tickets, work for the corporation or are related to or live with people who have performed either of those jobs in the past year.

Jacques Allard cited a jump in the number of \$25,000-plus wins by such players to 48 in 2010-2011 from around 30 between 2007 and 2010.

"(That) is within the range of natural variation expected, but near the upper limit of this range," he wrote in the report released Thursday.

"We recommend that close attention be given to the number of \$25,000-plus (non-arm's-length) wins for the next 12 months. If the number does not decrease, as would be expected from random vari-



Atlantic Lotto scratch tickets.  
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

ability, further investigation would be required."

Larry Doherty, Atlantic Lottery's vice-president of finance and risk management, wouldn't say how many non-arm's-length winners of more than \$25,000 they've recorded in this fiscal year so far.

"We're still reviewing that process," he said. "We are tracking them, but until there's official analysis I think it would be premature to comment."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Two reports commissioned

The corporation commissioned two reports last October after questions surfaced on the apparent high rate of wins by insiders.

## Small business. Optimism growing in N.S., but still lags behind national average

A survey of small businesses in February by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) shows optimism rose to 61.3 points. The national average is 66.

Nova Scotia had the lowest in the country in December and rose to 58.2 in January.

The CFIB is also re-

porting business owners' plans to hire are also lagging behind the national average. Across the country, 16 per cent of owners plan to hire full-time staff in the next three months, but only eight per cent in Nova Scotia plan to do so.

More, in fact, at 13 per cent plan to cut back.

METRO



The Imperial Oil refinery is seen in this photo taken from Fenwick Tower. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

# Mayor miffed over oil-refinery deal

**Imperial Oil.** Premier defends the tax break given by province, one he voted against while in opposition



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Mayor Peter Kelly said the province is sending the wrong message by extending a tax break to a multibillion-dollar oil company.

Kelly said Thursday that Imperial Oil and its parent company, ExxonMobil, can afford to pay their full share of municipal commercial taxes

for its Dartmouth refinery.

"It is somewhat problematic as to why there's preferential treatment given to one sector over another," said Kelly.

The provincial government revealed on Wednesday it will continue a five-year tax break for the refinery. Under the agreement, Imperial Oil will pay \$41 per barrel — resulting in a \$3.6-million bill to HRM annually, with two \$225,000 direct payments in April 2012 and 2014.

Based on the municipal assessment, the refinery should be paying \$7.1 million a year. That means the provincial decision will result in \$17.5 million less coming into municipal coffers over the five-year

### Who's in charge?

"The other piece is that, although the province made the deal, we believe that we should be in charge of our own tax regime." Mayor Peter Kelly

life of the deal.

Kelly said there's also the issue of the municipality controlling its own tax regime.

Premier Darrell Dexter defended the deal on Thursday, saying the province can't afford to lose its last refinery.

"It is a refinery that is under a great deal of stress in terms of its continued operation," Dexter told reporters.

"We used to have three refineries in this province. Now we have one. I don't think

anybody would want to see us lose our last refinery."

Dexter said losing the refinery could lead to a higher cost at the pumps for Nova Scotians. The premier could provide no evidence of this, but said he was basing his position on comments made by industry analysts in the press.

"Without that refinery, it's very likely that (people) would pay higher prices (for gas)," Dexter said.



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# Province still has strides to make on gender equality: Alliance chair

ALY THOMSON  
halifax@metronews.ca

Christine Saulnier says when it comes to gender equality in Nova Scotia, "we have a long way to go."

Saulnier, a chair of the Women's Action Alliance for Change Nova Scotia, says the province has made some positive moves in recent years, but long-term commitments are needed in order to advance women's equality.

"There certainly have been some investments," said Saulnier on Thursday, which was International Women's Day. "(The provincial government) did increase some funding to the women's centres and transition houses."

But the alliance is hoping for more — in the form of legislation.

"We need something where we can hold the gov-

## History

# 1911

The year of the first International Women's Day.

ernment accountable," she said, noting that last fall the group asked government and opposition parties to push for a women's strategy.

Saulnier identifies equal wages, women's presence in politics, and investment in affordable and accessible child care as areas that need improvement.

About 75 people turned out to a rally at Halifax's Grand Parade at noon to celebrate the 101st year of International Women's Day.

Saulnier says the event is an opportunity to celebrate women, but also to think and ask questions about gender equality and women's rights.

## Farm. Salmon virus no cause for concern: Minister

The outbreak of a salmon virus at a fish farm in south-western Nova Scotia is being closely monitored, but it is just part of a "normal business day," the province's fisheries minister said Thursday.

Sterling Belliveau stresses there is no threat to human health and early detection and monitoring will help stop the spread of the disease, known as infectious salmon anemia.

"These particular incidents are being managed in an appropriate fashion," Belliveau said after a cabinet meeting in Halifax.

"There's no effect on the traditional fishing industry... I can reassure you, based on the scientific information, that there's no effect on the lobster industry. Human health is not in question."

"This is part of life."

On Wednesday, a spokeswoman for Cooke Aquaculture of New Brunswick confirmed the virus was discovered at the company's operation in Nova Scotia's Shelburne Harbour.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says the virus does not threaten food



Sterling Belliveau

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

## Greater threat?

- Industry critics say the virus threatens wild-fish stocks, but a provincial official says it's unlikely the virus will spread beyond the infected pens.

safety, but it can kill up to 90 per cent of infected Atlantic salmon, depending on the strain.

So far, salmon in three underwater holding pens have been destroyed, but it remains unclear how many fish were killed.

It isn't the first time the virus has hit the province. It happened before in Shelburne Harbour, back in 2004, but Belliveau could not provide any details.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Report

### HRM housing starts inch downward

While the shipbuilding bid may be supporting a hot real-estate market, new housing construction is declining in HRM.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. is reporting new residential starts in Halifax were slightly down in February as compared to the same month last year. There were 153 new starts last month, compared to 158 in February 2011.

Across Canada, housing starts were up 15 per cent last month. **METRO**

## Crime

### Judge-only trial for man charged in deadly collision

A man charged after a fatal car crash last year has elected to be tried by judge alone.

William Fogarty of Antigonish faces two counts of impaired driving by drugs causing death and two counts of dangerous operation of a motor

vehicle causing death.

A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for three days in May for the 30-year-old man.

The two-vehicle crash on Highway 4 in Tracadie on Nov. 24 killed 16-year-old Kory Mattie of Linwood and 17-year-old Nico Landry of Monastery.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Dartmouth

### Multiple-vehicle crash sends three to hospital

Halifax Regional Police required the Jaws of Life to pry two people out of their vehicles after a head-on collision in Dartmouth Thursday.

Police were called to the scene of the accident on Windmill Road and Dawn Drive at approximately 3:44 p.m.

According to police, the crash involved three vehicles — two of which collided head-on.

Three people in total were taken to hospital with undetermined injuries.

Investigators with the HRP accident team are investigating. **METRO**



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**INCLUDES** central accom with free transportation to major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from \$7 per night. **ADD** 5-day Walt Disney World Resort Magic Your Way Base Ticket from \$275/adult, \$255/child (ages 3-9). **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from \$639.

**Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights** from **\$569**  
+ taxes & fees \$186

**INCLUDES** 3.5-star accom on the Strip. **UPGRADE** to 4-star from \$8 per night. **ADD** Vegas Passport Ultimate Club Hopping pass from \$130.

**New York City Air + 3 Nights** from **\$619**  
+ taxes & fees \$125

**INCLUDES** accom in midtown Manhattan. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from \$34 per night. **ADD** Empire State Building from \$21.

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+ taxes & fees USD \$82  
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## Crown hasn't explained extraditing delay, MacIntosh defence says

**Appeal.** Lawyer says Crown waited 11 years before taking action

The defence for a Nova Scotia man who successfully appealed sexual abuse convictions says Canada's top court should uphold that decision because the Crown hasn't explained why there were delays in extraditing him from India.

Ernest Fenwick MacIntosh was convicted by the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia in 2010 on 13 charges of indecent assault and gross indecency, almost 15 years after allegations surfaced that he sexually abused boys.

But the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal dismissed the convictions late last year, arguing that he was not brought to trial in a timely manner.

The Crown wants the Supreme Court of Canada to overturn that decision, arguing the Appeal Court erred because it didn't give enough weight to the public's interest in having a trial despite the passage of time.

But in a response to the Crown filed about two weeks

### The Crown says

- In a brief filed with the Supreme Court of Canada on Feb. 2, Nova Scotia's prosecutors said the Appeal Court failed to "consider society's heightened interest in a trial on the merits for serious allegations of sexual violence against children and young persons."
- The Crown is also disputing the Appeal Court's conclusion that the judge misunderstood evidence and that some of the evidence by the men who testified raised credibility issues.

ago, defence lawyer Brian Casey said the Crown knew MacIntosh's whereabouts for 12 years and has not explained why it waited 11 years before filing an extradition from India.

The lawyer contends that the police also failed to move the case along when they decided in 1995 not to proceed with charges involving one complainant, and then reversed that decision in 2001.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ernest Fenwick MacIntosh arrives at Nova Scotia Supreme Court in this file photo. ANDREW VAUGHAN/CANADIAN PRESS

## Advisory. Boil water order lifted after tests

### Contamination

Provincial officials have lifted a boil order that was issued after a water sample from a residence at Cape Breton University tested positive for total coliform bacteria.

The order was put in place Wednesday and affected the Nova Scotia Community College Marconi campus and Cape Breton University.

The Environment Department issued a release Thursday saying subsequent samples have tested negative for E. coli and total coliform, and the or-

- According to the department's website, total coliform bacteria is not likely to cause illness, but it indicates a water supply may be vulnerable to more harmful contamination.

der has been lifted.

The department says positive tests can be caused by testing errors or contaminated samples. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Theft. 100 keys stolen from Cape Breton utility

Nova Scotia's private power utility says keys for about 100 customers were stolen from one of its depots in northern Cape Breton.

Nova Scotia Power says the keys were taken from a depot in Baddeck during an overnight break-in between Tuesday and Wednesday.

Customers gave the keys to the utility to allow meter readers to access indoor power meters in communities including

Baddeck, Margaree, Meat Cove, Ingonish and Englishtown.

Nova Scotia Power says names and addresses were not included on the keys.

It says it is phoning customers and will refund those who want to change their locks.

Robin McAdam, Nova Scotia Power's executive vice-president of customer services, apologized to customers in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Kony website has raised more than \$5M

**Controversy.** Video creator defends project on Toronto radio show

Jason Russell, director of the viral Kony 2012 video, responded to criticism of his humanitarian group, Invisible Children, on Thursday. He called in to the Roz and Mocha show on KiSS 92.5 FM.

**So what's the last 48 hours been like?**

Man, we haven't really slept.... The world's waking up to their potential.

**When did you post this online? It now stands at 26.6 million views.**

We posted this on Monday at noon ... and by that night it had 60,000 views and we were freaking out.

**Anytime anyone asked me to put this on Facebook or re-tweet it, I had one question: why?**

(People) don't know how to stop child soldiering ... but now things are changing because of technology.... This is about Kony, the world's worst criminal.... It would be an injustice if he actually

**Viral video**

## 26.6M

The video, which was posted on Monday, stood at 26.6 million views by Thursday morning.

was captured and nobody knew about it.

**You have been criticized for your organization's finances and not having Africans on your board. What can somebody who buys a (sticker) on your website actually do to help?**

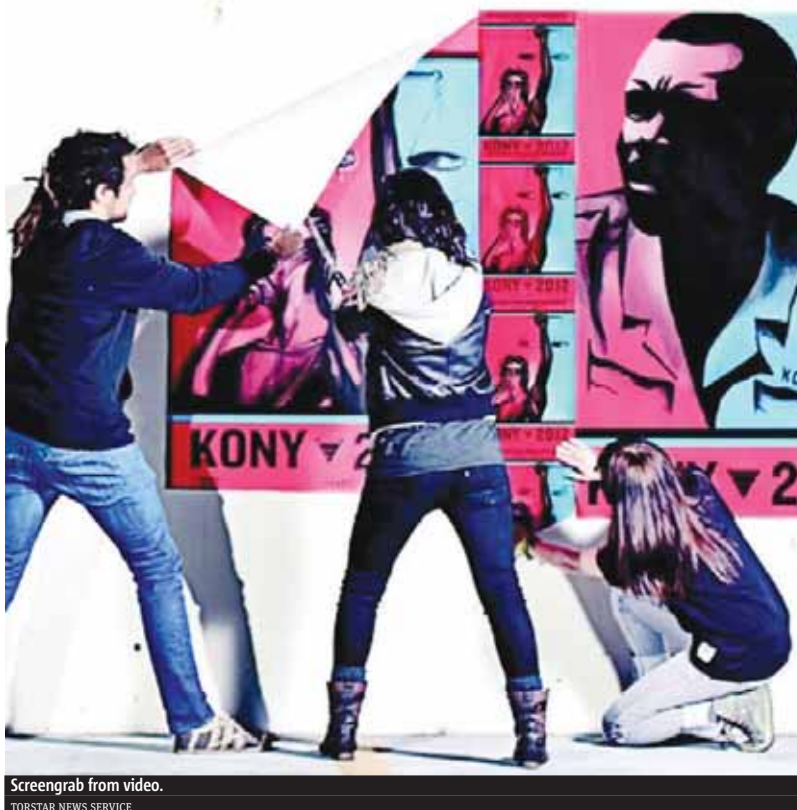
I mean, putting up the sticker actually does help it because it awakens the consciousness of this world.

**(Have any celebrities) responded to you?**

Oprah Winfrey ... was the first one to tweet it out ... (and to) support us financially.... And then came more, Taylor Swift, Ryan Seacrest.... Justin Bieber just started tweeting about it.

**How much money have you guys made off the website in the last 48 hours?**

Over \$5 million.  
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Screengrab from video.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**More demonstrations**

## 2 dead, including gunman, in U.S. hospital shooting

A gunman who opened fire after entering the lobby of a Pittsburgh psychiatric hospital on Thursday was armed with two semiautomatic handguns during a confrontation that left two people, including the gunman, dead and several others wounded, the mayor said.

Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl said the man exchanged gunfire with police and was shot dead, but not before one other person was killed and seven hurt, apparently by his gunfire. One injured person wasn't hurt by gunfire.

The mayor stopped short of confirming the gunman was fatally shot by a University of Pittsburgh police officer. But he confirmed "police acted admirably and did engage in gunfire." One of the injured was a police officer who Ravenstahl said was grazed by a bullet.

Neighbouring buildings were placed on lockdown for hours, police said.  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Student hurt in eye during Quebec tuition-hike protests



Students demonstrate in Montreal on Thursday, protesting for women's rights and against rising tuition hikes. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A student demonstrator feared losing sight in one eye Thursday, feeding an atmosphere of heightened tensions over Quebec's tuition-fee hikes.

There were more protests one day after 20-year-old protester Francis Grenier suffered a partially detached retina following the explosion of a police stun grenade during a demonstration Wednesday in downtown Montreal.

Some students taunted police by wearing eyepatches in reference to Grenier. There were also chants and

a variety of hand gestures, ranging from two-fingered peace signs to one-fingered salutes.

"Police is everywhere, justice is nowhere," some chanted.

A day earlier, seven people were arrested during a pair of Montreal protests — the latest in a string of demonstrations by students who believe Quebec's rock-bottom tuition rates are a basic right.

In the main protest Wednesday, riot police armed with batons and tear gas charged into a group of demonstrators who were

blocking access to a public building. Protesters pelted the helmeted officers with snowballs.

The ambulance service initially reported Wednesday that it had treated four people — including a police officer — for only minor injuries. But Jeanne Reynolds, a spokeswoman for one of the student groups, described Grenier's injury as serious.

"We don't know yet whether he will lose his eyesight or not," Reynolds said. "He's in bad shape, so he's resting right now."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Police response**

Montreal police say they've interviewed the injured man, Francis Grenier, and are trying to determine what happened during Wednesday's protest.

- "Certainly, we're going to investigate to see what caused this man's injuries," said department spokesman Raphael Bergeron.
- Bergeron described Grenier's injury as "quite serious."

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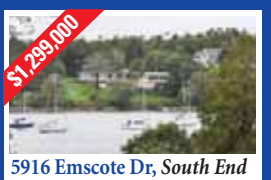
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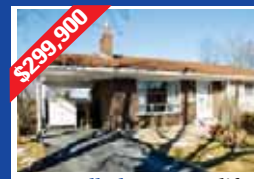
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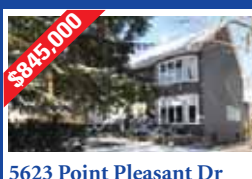
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## Indonesia. Obama's former nanny finds fame as transgender celeb

Barack Obama's former nanny, Evie, is overwhelmed by her jolt from transgender slum-dweller to local celebrity. TV crews troop in and out of her tiny concrete hovel. Estranged relatives finally want to meet. She even has a promising job offer.

Evie, who was born male but considers herself a woman, decided after enduring years of abuse and ridicule she'd be better off trying to just fit in. She stopped cross-dressing and has since eked out a living hand-washing clothes.

But since being the subject of a recent article by The Associated Press about the struggles of transgender people in this predominantly Muslim nation, the 66-year-old has been showered with attention. It's mostly because of her long-ago connection to the now-U.S. president, though she hopes it might generate more openness on gender issues.

"After living without hope for so long, like I was locked in a dark room, I now feel like the door is open," said Evie, who like many Indonesians goes by one name. "It's like the winds of heaven are blowing hope for



Barack Obama's former nanny Evie poses outside her boarding house.  
DITA ALANGKARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

me."

"Even my relatives who never cared about me are now coming to see me."

Though many newcomers to Indonesia are surprised by the quasi-acceptance and pervasiveness of transgenders, seen on TV and working in salons, they are usually the object of scorn. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



## Hindu festival hits a colourful note in India

A woman reacts as her face is smeared with coloured powder during Holi festivities in Mumbai, India, Thursday. Holi, the Hindu festival of colours, also heralds the coming of spring.

RAJANISH KAKADE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Haiti

## Haitian leader slams citizenship rumours

Haitian President Michel Martelly is trying to quell rumours that he is not a Haitian citizen.

Martelly showed reporters his Haitian passport at a nationally televised conference on Thursday.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

### Fun train has ended

## Carnival history auctioned off

The good times have turned to hard times for the Mardi Gras Museum near New Orleans.

Glitzy baubles of Carnival history were auctioned off Thursday as the museum liquidated its collection of crowns, scepters, capes and costumes of kings and queens, and the jewels and coins they tossed to their eager subjects.

The museum closed after attendance declined and public funds dried up in the recession. It opened in 1992 in the New Orleans suburb of Kenner.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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# Manager misused funds: Watchdog

**Scandal.** Critics question why bureaucrat who used public money to buy TVs, massages hasn't been prosecuted yet

## Corruption

The manager, who had been in the job for nine years, left the government during Dion's 2010 investigation, although the report doesn't say whether the bureaucrat was fired or quit.

- The department says it has tightened its procedures to keep closer track of spending and better monitor its staff. And it has recovered the TVs and other goodies the manager took home.

A federal public servant charged massages as office supplies, put in for bogus expenses, took home flat-screen TVs paid for with office funds and used a government car as a personal vehicle, all while bullying and browbeating underlings.

These are among the findings of a damning report tabled Thursday by Public Sector Integrity Commissioner Mario Dion.

The case involves a western regional manager in Human Resources and Skills Development who is not otherwise identified.

Dion said lax policies allowed the manager to divert government equipment to a personal business, claim phoney expenses and cut sweetheart deals for family and friends, while continuing to terrorize staff.

The manager also ignored rules about confidentiality and disclosed personal information

about employees to other members of staff.

As well, the manager used the passwords and access codes of employees who worked in different offices to make financial entries without their knowledge or consent.

"I have determined that the breadth, severity and frequency of the manager's wrongdoing constitute gross mismanagement in the public sector," Dion said in a release.

The mess was uncovered after frightened public servants complained to Dion's office in February 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Alaska bear cub recreates famous Winnie-the-Pooh scene

This photo provided by Michael Keye Schuler shows a bear cub with its head stuck in a container Sunday, March 4, 2012 on top of Deer Mountain in Ketchikan, Alaska. Schuler was hiking when he found the cub on the summit, and was able to set it free.

COURTESY OF MICHAEL KEYE SCHULER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Aung San Suu Kyi with John Baird.  
PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Aung San Suu Kyi's steely resolve

Aung San Suu Kyi used Thursday's visit of Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird to fire another round in her long fight for freedom — she warned of voter fraud threatening Myanmar's coming landmark elections.

With a steely resolve, the celebrated Nobel laureate warned that bogus voters' lists are threatening her country's tough road to democratic freedom. Baird, latest in a long line of international visitors, readily agreed.

The revelation added gravity to Baird's historic visit to Myanmar, also known as

Burma, where he personally conferred honorary Canadian citizenship on Suu Kyi.

Emerging from nearly an hour of talks at her lakeside Yangon residence, where she has served 15 of the last 23 years under arrest, Suu Kyi disclosed the new threat to her historic campaign.

"We have just discovered there are many, many irregularities on the voters' lists and we have applied to the election commission to do something about this," Suu Kyi said, standing next to Baird on the back porch of her scenic sanctuary.

"A lot of dead people seem to be prepared to vote on the first of April. We can't have that, can we? And other things like that."

Baird's meeting with Suu Kyi capped a whirlwind day of travel on a visit to one of the world's international pariah states. Though he expressed optimism after meeting Myanmar's reform-minded leader earlier in the day, the high-flying Canadian minister was clearly grounded after his meeting with one of world's most celebrated champions of freedom.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Porn star. Teacher's fate to be decided by peers after smut video

Educators must decide the fate of a school teacher placed on paid administrative leave amid claims that she appeared in a pornographic video.

The teacher at Richard B. Haydock Intermediate School in Oxnard, whose name was not released, went on leave Monday. A school site administrator believes she's the one seen in the video, Oxnard School District Superintendent Jeff Chancer

said Wednesday.

The teacher's contract does not contain a moral turpitude clause, but Chancer said the California Education Code outlines employment conditions that could lead to her being disciplined or fired.

"We're trying to determine if there's a nexus on what she does on her own time and what she does in the classroom," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## Analysis

**Concerns divide families**

Earlier this year Robert Knoth, a Dutch photographer, travelled to Fukushima to document residents' everyday lives.

"Even outside the exclusion zone, there are lots of empty villages," he says. "There are only a few people there who don't want to leave. Many have lived there for generations."

And the accident caused rifts in local families. "Young people didn't believe the government's claims that it was safe to stay," explains Knoth.

"They wanted to leave, but that caused conflicts because Japanese families act collectively."

Kenta Sato, a young Tweeter who worked for his father's company, quit his job and moved to Fukushima City. Now he lives on his savings, with no job prospects in sight. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

# A year after disaster, Japan still struggles

**Fukushima.** Somehow, life goes on in the shadow of shattered nuclear reactors

**ELISABETH BRAW**  
Metro World News

One year ago, an earthquake struck the waters off Fukushima, a quiet city in central Japan. The 8.9 tremor caused a tsunami, which hit the city's nuclear power plant. Within minutes, three of the plant's reactors overheated and released clouds of radioactivity.

"I was at home on my farm," recalls Tatsuko Ogawara, an organic farmer who lives 40 kilometres from the reactor. "A geiger counter we bought 26 years ago showed radiation levels 30 times higher than normal. When this happened, I wanted to evacuate to western Japan with my children.

## Health concerns



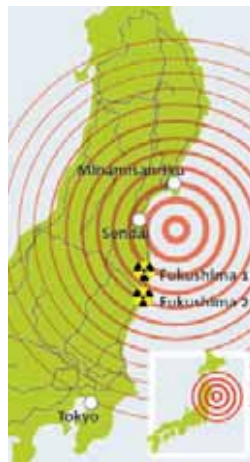
Tatsuko Ogawara  
Organic farmer

**"The radiation levels of our crops are a big problem now."**

However, I respected the decision our children made and decided to remain in our home."

One year later, Ogawara remains at her family farm — but the Fukushima region has changed. The 20-kilometre exclusion zone around the plant is a Chernobyl-like landscape inhabited only by animals.

"And a 13,000 square kilometre area is still contaminated above the international limit," says Jan Beranek, a nuclear expert at Greenpeace, who has measured the area's radioactivity.



The effects of the earthquake, tsunami and accident reached Tokyo.

"It will take three decades before the radioactive isotopes are broken down. Until then, the Fukushima region is a ticking time bomb. The contaminated water is especially dangerous, since it

could leak and contaminate reservoirs."

For Ogawara, the radioactivity is a constant concern: "We have lost many customers due to radiation fears. And I'm very worried about the health of my children."

The Ogawaras' oldest daughter has already left Fukushima.

In fact, while authorities and TEPCO, the nuclear plant's operator, quickly repaired the broken reactors, surprisingly little attention has been paid to the health of the area's residents.

Says Ogawara: "Decontamination has become a business and there is big money moving around, but this money isn't going into the community, it is going into big business."

TEPCO could not be reached for comment.

But Fukushima has changed Japan. The government plans to phase out the country's nuclear reactors.



Fishermen work near debris at the port of Fukushima. Much of the debris is from the former town.

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Minamisanriku nearly a year after the March 11 tsunami hit the northeastern Japanese town.  
centre. SHIZUO KAMBAYASHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Senior Syrian official abandons 'sinking ship'

Syria's deputy oil minister appeared tense as he looked at the camera and announced in a video that he has defected from President Bashar Assad's regime, acknowledging he expects government forces to "burn my home" and "persecute my family."

Abdo Husameddine, a 58-year-old father of four, on Thursday became the highest-ranking civilian official to join the opposition, and he urged his countrymen to "abandon this sinking ship"

### Resignation

"I do not want to end my life servicing the crimes of this regime."

Abdo Husameddine  
Former deputy oil minister

as the nation spirals toward civil war.

In the YouTube video, Husameddine seemed to address Assad directly, accusing him

of vast crimes in the past year as government forces pummel the opposition with tanks and snipers. The U.N. estimates 7,500 people have been killed since the uprising began.

"You have inflicted on those you claim are your people a full year of sorrow and sadness, denied them their basic rights to life and humanity and pushed the country to the edge of the abyss," said Husameddine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# 'We did the best we could' officer testifies

**Rafferty trial.**  
Emotional officer describes desperate police effort to find missing 8-year-old

A huge contingent of police officers worked flat out for up to 20 hours a day over six weeks in hopes of finding eight-year-old Victoria Stafford alive, so it was a crushing blow when

a young woman confessed the girl was dead, a court in London, Ont., heard Thursday.

Tori was supposed to have walked with her brother from school to their mom's new home on April 8, 2009, but a few minutes after the dismissal bell rang, the 10-year-old couldn't find her.

The boy rode around the neighbourhood on a bicycle looking for her, court heard.

By then, Tori was already being driven from her school

in Woodstock, Ont., Michael Rafferty and his girlfriend Terri-Lynne McClintic, then 18, the Crown alleges.

From April 8 until McClintic confessed on May 19, police held out hope Tori was alive somewhere.

"The investigation went from an abduction investigation to a homicide investigation," Det. Const. Sean Kelly testified, his voice trembling with emotion.

"It was quite significant and

it had ... a pretty big impact."

Kelly choked up and had difficulty speaking, so he paused, staring at the ceiling and trying to blink away tears.

"I'm good," he said eventually. "We'll continue."

Woodstock police called in Ontario Provincial Police after about a week, and for those first several days in particular, "overwhelmed" officers worked 16 to 20 hours a day, Kelly testified.

"We did the best that we



Victoria Stafford  
THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO

could," he said.

Kelly was the last witness to testify this week at Rafferty's trial.

Rafferty, 31, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping.

McClintic pleaded guilty in April 2010 to first-degree murder and is serving a life sentence. She is set to take the stand when Rafferty's trial resumes on Tuesday.

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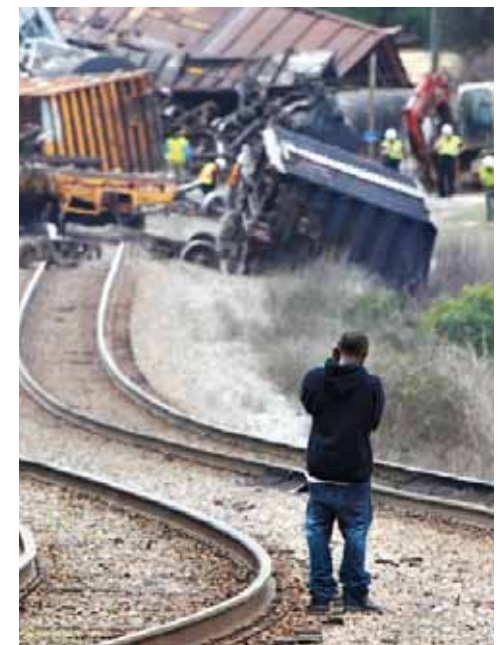
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## Derailment in South Carolina

Antonio Rogers, 18, takes a picture of derailed train cars in Abbeville, S.C. on Thursday. Officials say 27 cars piled up on the tracks around 4:45 a.m. SEPTON IPOCK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Cambridge University

### Students oppose speech by Strauss-Kahn

Students opposed to a Cambridge University appearance by Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the former IMF chief accused of sexual assault, have invited his accuser's lawyer to speak

there the same day.

The one-time French political star, also known as DSK, is due to speak on Europe's financial crisis Friday.

Strauss-Kahn, 62, resigned as head of the International Monetary Fund after allegations last May that he sexually assaulted New York hotel maid Nafissatou Diallo. The charges were later dropped, but Diallo has brought a civil case. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Art captures soldier's love

**Animal lover.** Fallen soldier found solace in Afghanistan through one furry friend



**JEREMY NOLAÏS**  
Metro in Calgary

Pte. Chad Horn loved animals.

Even amid the uncertainty and horror of combat in Afghanistan, the Calgary native found comfort in caring for creatures smaller than him.

"He was always trading food with other soldiers," recalled Cpl. Wade Taylor, who served alongside Horn in the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry battle group. "We would sit by the gate of our forward operating base and animals would come by and we would feed them."

Stationed in the Zhari district of Afghanistan's often-volatile Kandahar province, Taylor and his comrades watched curiously as one particular cat took a liking to the daily feedings.

Although female and clearly pregnant, she quick-

ly became known as Scuba Steve.

Horn took a particular liking to her. Back at home, his mother, Anita Bowes, knew little of his relationship with Scuba but was not surprised to find out later when going over his field notes.

"Animals were such a huge part of who he was," she said.

Sadly, Horn never got a chance to pursue such a career. On their last patrol out of the Zhari base, his group was ambushed by dozens of Taliban fighters. Horn, less than two weeks away from returning home, was killed along with Cpls. Andrew Grenon and Mike Seggie. Five others were wounded.

Upon returning home, Taylor uncovered some photos of Horn and Scuba. One particular image caught the eye of Calgarian Dave Murphy, who runs numerous military-support campaigns through his online initiative, Thank A Soldier.

Murphy enlisted the help of Ontario artist Sarah Blanche, who is herself a military wife, and she recently completed a drawing of Horn and Scuba.



Anita Bowes holds up a drawing created by artist Sarah Blanche in honour of her deceased son, Pte. Chad Horn, and the special relationship he had with a cat named Scuba Steve while serving in Afghanistan. JEREMY NOLAÏS/METRO

## Job market looking grim for Canadian youth

Regardless how many jobs were created last month, one group of Canadians is almost certain to have fared badly — youth.

The consensus ahead of Statistics Canada's jobs report Friday morning was that 15,000 jobs were created countrywide in February, an indication of positive if modest economic growth.

But if employment surveys of the past few years are any guide, Canadians aged between 15 and 24 will be at a disadvantage.

The recession may be

over for most Canadians, but workers or want-to-be workers in the youngest age group tracked by Statistics Canada continue to experience the economy as if the recovery had never happened, or as if it were still 2008. And the younger you are in the age group, the bleaker the picture.

The finding was thrown into dramatic light Thursday in a paper from TD Bank economist Francis Fong, who points out that employment in the age grouping is still 250,000 below pre-recession levels.

By contrast, all other age

groups have more than recovered from the overall 430,000 job losses of the 2008-09 slump. Workers 25 and above are more than 400,000 jobs to the good.

"Canadian youth are not facing the terrible prospects of their counterparts in Europe and the U.S.," says Fong. "Nevertheless, it is clearly evident that Canadian youth are facing an uphill battle, which will persist for some time."

Historically, younger workers are hit hardest by recessions. Fong points out the age group actually took greater

losses during the 1990-92 and 1981-82 slumps.

Nevertheless, Fong believes today's youth are facing some challenges unique to the times.

Unlike in the 1990s, many older Canadians are unretiring because either they need to or they simply want to work given that they are in better health and likely to live longer.

Almost as difficult for youth, said Fong, is that the legacy of the recession can last for years.

Two separate studies, one in Canada and one from the

United States, show that a one-percentage-point decline in the unemployment rate can result in six to seven per cent average decline in the initial wage for a youthful worker, and that it can take anywhere from 10 to 15 years to close the gap.

"When jobs are not abundant, graduating students wind up taking lesser jobs," Fong said. "It might take several years to find a job in the industry of choice and a lot longer to claw back what was lost in terms of wages."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Disadvantaged group

A recent TD Bank analysis of the job market found that Canadians over 55 were increasingly joining the labour force, taking jobs in traditionally youth-oriented industries such as retail.

- **Job trend.** The report also showed that even during the recession, the over-60 crowd actually gained 100,000 jobs while all other cohorts took on losses.



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# Research team creates world's first full image of the Titanic

**Titanic.** The doomed ship has been mapped for the very first time using thousands of photos taken underwater

An expedition team using sonar imaging and robots has created what's believed to be the first comprehensive map of the entire Titanic wreck site.

The map shows where hundreds of objects and pieces of the ship landed, and provides new evidence on what happened when the supposedly unsinkable ship violently ripped apart on its maiden voyage 100 years ago.

Marks on the muddy ocean bottom suggest, for instance, that the stern rotated like a helicopter blade as the ship sank, rather than plunging straight down, researchers told The Associated Press in an interview this week.

The expedition team used sonar imaging and more than 100,000 photos taken from



Kirk Wolfinger, top left, Rushmore DeNooyer and Tony Bacon of the Lone Wolf Documentary Group, pose at an editing station Thursday, March 8, 2010, in South Portland, Maine. ROBERT F. BUKATY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

underwater robots to create the map, which shows where hundreds of objects and pieces of the presumed-unsinkable vessel landed after striking an iceberg, killing more than 1,500 people.

The mapping took place

during a 2010 scientific expedition to the wreck site.

The History channel is airing a documentary on the expedition and the map on April 15. That's the anniversary of the sinking.

Explorers of the Titanic

— which sank on its maiden voyage from Southampton, England, to New York City — have known for more than 25 years where the bow and stern landed after the vessel struck an iceberg.

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A composite image of the Titanic. RMS TITANIC INC./THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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### Analysis

## A look back at the Titanic: 100 years after sinking

To mark the 100th anniversary of the Titanic sinking, the National Geographic Museum in Washington is preparing a new exhibit on the history and study of the famous ship.

Titanic: 100 Year Obsession will highlight the work of Robert Ballard, who co-led a team that discovered the shipwreck site in 1985, and James Cameron, who made

the film Titanic. Cameron has organized 33 dives to the Titanic site. The exhibit will examine the ship's development and engineering, as well as its beautiful features.

It will include a detailed scale model of the ship, as well as a working model of the engine room and a recreated radio room. Replicas and props from the film will be on display.



DEEP-SEA ADVENTURES AWAIT

Dr. Robert Ballard, above, said Thursday that his next venture will send crews combing through the Black, Aegean and Mediterranean seas for artifacts from ship wrecks and ancient civilizations.

The exhibit announced Monday opens March 29 through July 8.



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WEEKEND, March 9-11, 2012

BUSINESS

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## Market moment



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**TSX**  
12,461.93 (+111.77)



**OIL**  
\$106.58 US (+42¢)



**GOLD**  
\$1,698.70 US (+\$14.80)

**Natural gas:** \$2.27 US (-3¢)  
**Dow Jones:** 12,907.94 (+70.61)

## Fiscal forecast

### Bank of Canada holds interest rate

As widely expected, Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney and his policy-setting team kept the trendsetting overnight interest rate at the highly stimulative rate of one per cent for the 12th consecutive date on Thursday. The central bank's upbeat tone Thursday appeared to cheer the markets. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Media monitor

### U.K. press regulator to be replaced

Britain's press regulator, much criticized amid a scandal over tabloid phone hacking, confirmed Thursday that it is to be abolished and replaced with a new body. Author J.K. Rowling was one of several celebrities to criticize the regulator in testimony to Britain's media ethics inquiry, calling it "toothless." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Controversial project

### U.S. Senate rejects Keystone pipeline

TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline has been denied a lifeline thrown to it by congressional Republicans after the U.S. Senate narrowly rejected their attempts to force the approval of the project. A total of 56 senators voted Thursday in favour of the measure, four short of the 60 needed for approval. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling.  
JOEL RYAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Raitt steps in to halt Air Canada work stoppage

**Labour dispute.** Minister urges both sides to return to the bargaining table despite intervention

Federal Labour Minister Lisa Raitt stepped in Thursday to prevent a work stoppage at Air Canada that would have thrown the travel plans of thousands of families into chaos at the beginning of a holiday week.

"Our government's concerned that the work stoppages are going to have an effect both on our national economy and of course on the Canadian travelling public," the minister said.

"We all know that it's March break, especially in Quebec, in Ontario and the following week after in British Columbia. And we know this can have an effect on Can-

adian families, especially since this is a really peak travel season."

Raitt sent the dispute between the airline and two of its unions — the pilots and ground crew — to the Canadian Industrial Relations Board to see how a work stoppage would affect the health and safety of Canadians.

"It is still a valid question to me, especially when it comes to passengers and cargo and that's exactly why we're going to be sending it over to the CIRB," Raitt said Thursday.

While the board reviews the case, the airline cannot lock out its employees and the unions cannot start a strike.

It is the same manoeuvre that Raitt used when it appeared Air Canada's flight attendants would go on strike last year, but the CIRB never made a decision on that matter.

Air Canada confirmed that there would be no disruption



An Air Canada pilot walks through the terminal at Stanfield International Airport in Halifax on Thursday. **ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

of service and its full schedule would remain unchanged.

Canada's largest airline had threatened earlier Thursday to lock its pilots out on Monday after they rejected the airline's latest contract offer, while

the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, which represents ground crew and mechanics, had set a strike deadline on the same day.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Debt deal. Greek bond swap agreement likely

Greece government officials and world markets appeared confident that a high number of private investors would participate in a major Greek debt-reduction deal as the deadline to do so passed Thursday night.

The deal is aimed at slashing the country's national debt by \$140 billion US, with private bondholders accepting a face-value loss of 53.5 per cent, in exchange for new bonds with

more favourable repayment terms.

Initial results of participation in the exchange are due to be announced early Friday.

A government official said Thursday evening that as of Wednesday night, the takeup on the offer had already topped 75 per cent. He spoke on condition of anonymity pending official government announcements. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Trade ties. Taiwan farmers protest U.S. beef imports

Thousands of Taiwanese farmers pelted waste and rotten eggs at a government building Thursday in protest of a plan to allow imports of U.S. beef containing a growth drug, challenging the island's president to "say no" to Washington.

President Ma Ying-jeou is seeking to strengthen ties with the U.S. by resolving a long-running beef dispute that has stalled trade talks.

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## WOMEN'S DAY, RUSH LIMBAUGH AND AN EXPLETIVE



THE LIST  
Paul Sullivan  
Metro

It's that time of the week again, when we roll out our list of the most amazing things happening. No use arguing ... the decision of the judges is final.

**1 International Women's Day:** You've still got a long way to go, baby. Only 17 per cent of the corporate officers and 13 per cent of the directors in Canada's top 500 companies are women. That's because the men have done such a good job.

**2 The Abyss 2:** James Cameron, director of *Avatar*, *Titanic* and *The Abyss*, announced that he's building a special submarine to descend to the bottom of the sea. The Marianas Trench, to be precise, is the deepest point in the ocean, where the pressure is 1,000 times greater than on the surface. The difference from his last visit to the abyss: This time, if the sub starts to leak, he can't just yell "cut!"

**3 iPad X:** OK, so it doesn't deliver world peace. The Apple iPad released Wednesday does have a better screen, a better battery, better graphics and a better camera, and some people are still disappointed because it's not called iPad 3 or doesn't make toast. Geeks gone wild.

**4 Rush Limbaugh, you ignorant slut:** If the spons-

sors and affiliates leaping off the bandwagon are any indication, America's foremost big-mouth may have finally gone too far when he called a U.S. law student testifying before Congress a "slut" and a "prostitute," because she thinks it's a good idea for health care to pay for birth control. Sometimes the trouble with free speech is that you get what you pay for.

**5 Super Tuesday:** How many Republican presidential candidates does it take to screw in a light bulb? Anybody but Mitt Romney, apparently. Finding a Republican to give Barry Obama a run for his money takes even longer than the NHL playoffs. If we're lucky, Newt



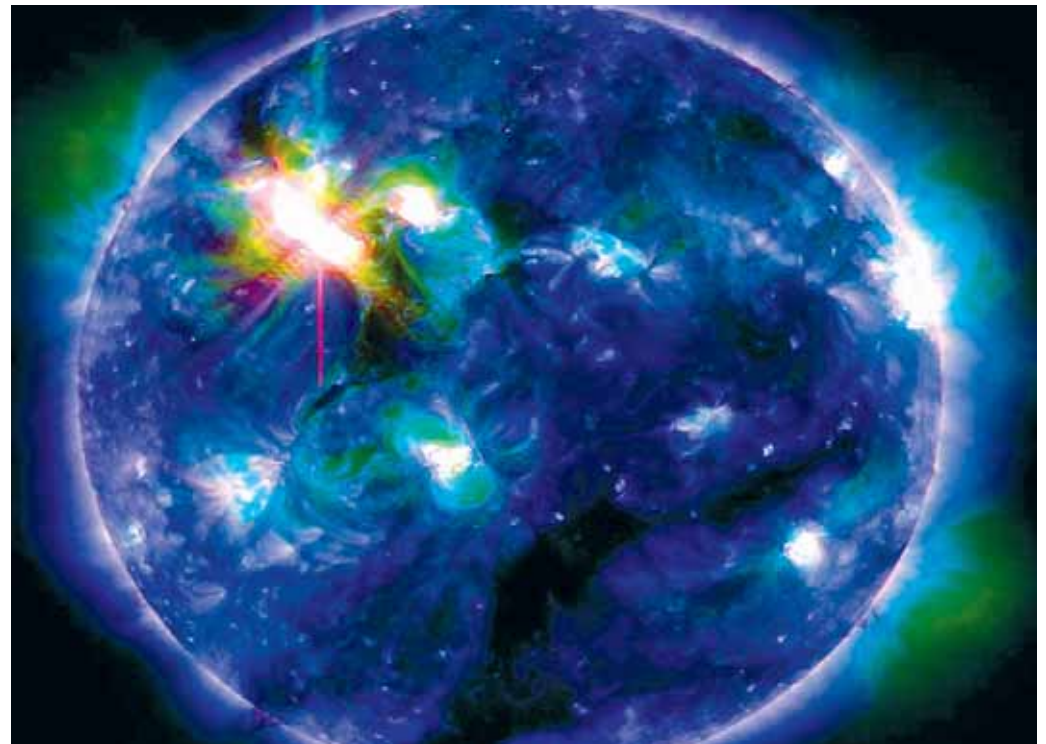
Rush Limbaugh, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gingrich and Don Cherry will both still be around in June.

**6 Just in time for spring break:** Air Canada's machinist union is either going to strike or the airline will lock them out. Oh, all those spring-break vacations we ruined? Too bad, so sad. Your flight is cancelled. Please call our helpless desk and we'll continue to ignore you as usual as we experience temporary labour difficulties.

**7 Bieber Watch:** Justin Bieber and I both have a birthday in the first week of March. To celebrate, he bought himself a \$10-million Hollywood mansion, only slightly used by Ashton Kutcher. I bought myself a latte. It went down smooth. Even though he's now a man, he still has the voice of a boy. I wonder if that's why he called his signature fragrance "Someday."

## Solar storm could flex its muscles yet



NASA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Lucky planet

#### Storm gets off to benign start

One of the strongest solar storms in years engulfed Earth early Thursday, but scientists say the planet may have lucked out.

Hours after the storm arrived, officials said there were no reports of problems with power grids, satellites or other technologies that are often disrupted by solar storms. But that could still change. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

### Disruptions

- The storm is part of the sun's normal 11-year cycle, which is supposed to reach a peak next year. Solar storms don't harm people, but they do disrupt technology. During the last peak around 2002, experts learned that GPS was vulnerable to solar outbursts.
- Because new technology has flourished since then, scientists could discover some new systems are also at risk, said the director of the Center for Integrated Space Weather Modeling at Boston University.

### Auroras

#### Earth dealt a good solar storm, this year

The storm could shake the planet's magnetic field in ways that could disrupt technology but also spread colourful Northern Lights.

Forecasters can predict the speed a solar storm travels and its strength, but the north-south orientation is the wild card. And this time, Earth got dealt a good card with a northern orientation.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

### Scientist says

**"It could flip-flop and we could end up with the strength of the storm still to come."**

**Joe Kunches**  
Scientist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Space Weather Prediction Center



Mitt Romney, GETTY IMAGES

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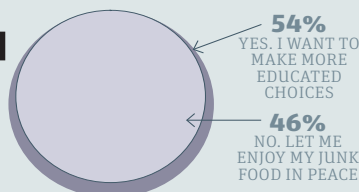
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Not even Eddie Murphy's charisma can save this lead-footed film. HANDOUT

# This silence isn't golden

## Reel Guys

### RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN



### A Thousand Words. Eddie Murphy's spiritual comedy needs some divine intervention

**Richard:** Mark, *A Thousand Words* is billed as a comedy but I see it as something else entirely. I see it as a tragedy — a tragic waste of Eddie Murphy's talent.

He's in virtually every scene but his wide-eyed mugging for the camera — there hasn't been this mugging on screen since the first *Death Wish* movie (only movie geeks will get that joke) — isn't funny, it's just annoying.

What did you think?

**Mark:** The movie isn't funny, period.

It has a lead foot and a tin ear. It felt like a middle period Jim Carrey movie like

*Liar, Liar* or *Yes Man*, in which the main character has a supernaturally imposed rule that the comic has to follow that leads to some kind of enlightenment or personal growth.

Murphy's imposed silence in the movie robs him of his greatest gift — the gift of gab. So all he can do is pop his eyeballs and mime his lines. But, Richard, if the movie is this bad, why did it hold my interest?

**RC:** It didn't hold mine, but I would guess that you were responding to Murphy's charisma.

Even in terrible movies it's hard to take your eyes off him.

Although I have to say that I found this such an unpleasant movie-going experience that the loud fire alarm that rang intermittently in the theatre during the film was a welcome relief to what was happening on screen.

At least the fire alarm had some element of urgency to it, unlike the film, which seemed to think that allowing Murphy to pull faces at the camera for 90 minutes was enough to flesh out the story.

**MB:** Maybe it was just relief that he didn't wear the fat suit, or the glossy art direction, or the satirical pokes at pop spirituality.

It has one good scene, where he "speaks" by using the prerecorded voice in various kids' toys.

But the abrupt turn of mood in the last third of the movie, changing from tepid comedy to outright mawkish sentimentalism made me squirm — big time.

Sorry, but I don't need a lesson in family values from a guy whose track record on Hollywood Boulevard speaks for itself.

**RC:** Ha!

## Synopsis

Teaming up with Norbet director Brian Robins again, Eddie Murphy plays Jack McCall, a fast talking literary agent who double-crosses new age guru Dr. Sinja (Cliff Curtis) on a book deal. Soon after, a magical Bodhi tree erupts through the ground in Jack's backyard. The tree will shed one leaf for every word McCall says, and after one thousand leaves have fallen, the true nature of the tree's curse will be revealed.

- Richard ●●●●●
- Mark ●●●●●

I can sum up my thoughts on *A Thousand Words* in far less than a thousand words: "Don't go. Save your money." You?

**MB:** Bad.

# 2

## SCENE



## Scene in brief

### Suing Seagal

Actor Steven Seagal and the Maricopa County sheriff's office are being sued over a 2011 arrest that a Phoenix-area man says was staged for a reality TV show. Jesus Llovera says Seagal and deputies unlawfully raided his home because they thought Llovera was raising fighting roosters. Llovera says the birds on his property were for show and not for fighting.

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After *Artist*, French film's set for a new golden age, Harvey Weinstein says

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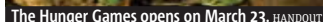
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"But she really knows her readers. And because she's been in the film world, she understands about adapting, that things have to go and things have to change."





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# No more Mr. Nice Guy

**Comedy.** Affable Jason Segel, star of *Jeff, Who Lives at Home*, dishes on the things he dislikes — and cats are on his hit list



**NED EHRBAR**  
Metro World News in Hollywood

Jason Segel has cemented his reputation as Hollywood's reigning Nice Guy, and with his latest film, *Jeff, Who Lives at Home*, he takes that image even further, playing an unyieldingly optimistic loser living in his mother's basement who sees the good in everyone.

But there has to be something that makes Segel angry. As it turns out, he's not such a big fan of cats.

**Your character in this is remarkably positive and open to life.**

Yeah, he's a special guy. He's a watcher, and he's taking things in. He really does have an undaunted confidence that there is a purpose to his life, and

that's a pretty courageous thing to believe. I think ultimately he doesn't know how to make sense of a terrible tragedy — his father died when he was young, and he just believes that there must be some reason for that.

**In less careful hands, these could be pretty laughable, demeaned characters.**

I think the goal was to have the tone of life. We weren't trying for broad comedy, we weren't trying for dark comedy, we were just trying for honesty. And the Duplass Brothers demand honesty, and that's what made me want to work with them. They roll the camera and they point it at you, and they don't say much. They'll let it roll for 40 minutes, and what sort of clicks in your mind is, "Well, I guess I'm supposed to do acting right now. They're not going to say cut. I claim to be an actor, I better do it."

**We've never really seen you get pissed off about anything, but there must be something that pisses you off.**

Yeah. When someone's rude to service staff, I get furious.

## On The Muppets

**It's been announced that a Muppets sequel is in the works. But this project won't involve Jason Segel.**

- "I worked very hard on this for half a decade. I just wanted a little Muppet break for a minute. Someday I may come back and do something, but I felt like I did what I set out to do, and now I'd like to do some more human-related projects," says Segel.

As for the fact that The Muppets received no Golden Globe nominations and only two best song nominations at the Oscars, Segel has this to say: "We're living in Cuckoosville, and I'm very lucky to be successful, but it's not the kind of stuff I get worked up about. As I've gotten older, the things I care about have really narrowed, and it's like my friends and my family. It's not awards season."

That could just as easily be you. Who the f--- are you to tell a waiter to hurry up? I hate it. That's my big one.

**If you didn't have an answer, I was going to ask you to say awful things about kittens.**

Anyone who would say, "I don't have anything [that I hate]" is a liar. I am not a big fan of cats. I'm going to be controversial. I think they're entitled little bastards. You come home and a dog greets you at the door and is so happy to see you. A cat is just laying on your bed, has just

done nothing all day, like, "Oh, hello..."

**You have nearly 1 million Twitter followers. How do you wrap your mind around that?**

I never say anything political or controversial. I tweet about food or me in a funny outfit. I think it's remarkable you say something like, "Sandwiches are better than burritos" and hundreds of thousands of people have an opinion; like they're ready to fight for it. "You don't like burritos? F--- you!" I think it's hilarious.



Jeff, Who Lives at Home opens next Friday. HANDOUT

He only has 1000 words left to discover what matters most.

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## Horror



## Silent House

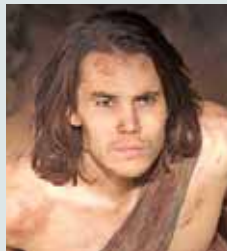
**Directors.** Chris Kentis,  
Laura Lau

**Stars.** Elizabeth Olsen, Adam  
Trese, Eric Sheffer Stevens

It's an interesting idea, you have to give it that. Based on the Uruguayan film *La Casa Muda*, *Silent House* follows a moody young woman (Elizabeth Olsen) as she's terrorized in a country house. And when I say "follows," I mean it literally: *Silent House* is presented in real time, as one continuous take, which can be interesting except for those moments when Olsen has to wait while the cameraman gets out of her way on the stairs.

NED EHRBAR

## Action



## John Carter

**Director.** Andrew Stanton

**Stars.** Taylor Kitsch, Lynn  
Collins, Willem Dafoe,  
Samantha Morton

Based on the novels by Edgar Rice Burroughs, the film follows Carter (Canada's own Taylor Kitsch), a former American Civil War captain who now spends his days searching for gold.

There are some impressive graphics, but the film lacks a coherent storyline, runs about 30 minutes too long and, despite the epic battle scenes, fails to capture your attention.

REGAN REID

## Drama



## A Separation

**Director.** Asghar Farhadi

**Xxx.** Peyman Moadi,  
Leila Hatami

Unable to find a compromise between educating their daughter abroad and caring for a husband's sick father, an Iranian couple separates. Director Asghar Farhadi proves skilled at building tension out of small moments in this film, which won the Golden Globe for best foreign language film this week. The story asks a lot of questions about the decisions we make in the interests of our loved ones. IAN GORMELY



Katy Butler, a one-time victim of Bullying delivers petition signatures to the MPAA's office. JONATHAN ALCON/REUTERS

# MPAA slaps bullying film with 'R' rating

## Documentary.

Filmmaker upset that movie may not be accessible to the crowd it aims to educate; petition sent to MPAA

Lee Hirsch had a violent, nightmare middle school experience. Every day multiple

students would punch him.

"It was very difficult and painful. I couldn't find an adult or my parents who were willing to help me make it stop," he says.

He's grown up, but Hirsch, a successful Sundance and Emmy-award winning director, is revisiting those painful days once more. In his new documentary *Bully* follows the stories of five children and their

families, showing how bullying has affected their lives.

But, even though it was intended to be an educational tool, *Bully* is garnering controversy. After being submitted to the MPAA, the governing body that issues American Film Ratings, the board decided to slap the film with an R-rating because the obscene language was used multiple times.

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# Becoming Sarah Palin

**TV movie.** To step into the hockey jersey of the 2008 vice presidential candidate in the HBO film *Game Change*, actress Julianne Moore's homework included voice lessons and watching reality TV



AMBER RAY

Metro World News in New York

*Game Change*, the bestselling account of the 2008 presidential election by Mark Halperin and John Heilemann, only dedicates a portion of its chapters to John McCain's selection of Sarah Palin as his running mate.

But that polarizing moment is the focus of the HBO film *Game Change*, which stars Ed Harris as McCain, Woody Harrelson as his campaign strategist Steve Schmidt, and Julianne Moore as their "star" — the then-relatively unknown but charismatic Palin.

Moore captures the likeness of the former Alaska governor with uncanny precision — without devolving into a Saturday Night Live parody.

"It's a daunting task to play somebody who is not only a living figure, but a hugely well-known one," Moore says. "So, for me, the most important thing was accuracy."

## Momma bear moment

"I chased down an ice skating coach once because they messed up the music to my daughter's program."

Julianne Moore on her own Sarah Palin-like "momma bear" moment

The actress put a "tremendous amount of research" into understanding America's most famous hockey mom, including, she says, reading "everything I could get my hands on."

At the top of her list was Palin's memoir, *Going Rogue: An American Life*, as well as *Blind Allegiance* to Sarah Palin: A Memoir of Our Tumultuous Years by Palin aide Frank Bailey, and, of course, *Game Change*.

Moore also watched hours of footage of Palin on the campaign trail, and even had video on hand while filming scenes to nail the candidate's physicality.

"We would sometimes have the computer there when I was doing the debates to watch things very precisely, like beat by beat, to get the gesture just right," Moore explains.

But the first thing the actress did was hire a vocal coach.

"(Palin) has an incredibly idiosyncratic way of speaking," Moore says, "and I really felt I needed to capture that. We are all very familiar with her and with those sort of iconic moments. I mean, it was just four years ago."



*Game Change*, starring Ed Harris and Julianne Moore, premieres Saturday at 9 p.m. ET on HBO. PHILLIP V. CARUSO

## Studying Palin

"One of the things that I watched was her reality show, Sarah Palin's Alaska, to kind of familiarize myself with the family and with her family dynamic. And, you know, that was, frankly, adorable. I mean, she's really a very caring, very involved parent."

Julianne Moore

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 Project X (STC) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 7:15-9:20  
 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7:15-9:20 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:45-4-7:15-9:20  
 The Vow (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:10 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:10 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10  
 Wanderlust (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 7:05-9:25 Dolby

Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3-7:05-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:05-9:25

## Dartmouth

**Dartmouth Crossing  
145 Shubie Dr., Dartmouth Crossing  
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Act of Valor (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:55-4:05-7:10-9:55 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10-9:55  
 The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1  
 Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12-3:15  
 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:30 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:35-3:50-6:40-9:30  
 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:30-4:25-7:20-10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:20-10  
 Footloose (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:05  
 Gone (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:25-3:10-6:20-9:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:20-9:15  
 Happy Feet Two (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:20-3:35  
 John Carter 3D (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-3:20-6:30-9:45  
 Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:40 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:25  
 Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 4:35-8-10:30  
 Project X (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:05-4-7:55-10:25 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:50-3:55-7:55-10:25  
 Safe House (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12-3-6:50-9:35 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 11:30-2:45-6:50-9:35  
 Silent House (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:40-4:10-7:40-10:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-

Thu 12:45-4:10-7:40-10:15  
 A Thousand Words (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:15-3:55-7-9:25 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 11:45-2:55-7-9:25  
 The Vow (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:45-4:40-7:30-10:05 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:30-10:05  
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## Truro

**Truro  
20 Treaty Trail, Millbrook  
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Act of Valor (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9 Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:05-6:30-9 Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9  
 The Adventures of Tintin (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:30-3:35  
 Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:05-3:15  
 The Descendants (14) Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:35 Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:15-6:35 Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:35  
 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 7-9:05 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:30-7-9:05 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:25-3:30-7-9:05  
 Goon (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:25  
 Happy Feet Two (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:15-3  
 The Iron Lady (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:45 Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:10-6:45 Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45  
 John Carter (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3-6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12-3:05-6:30-9:20  
 Project X (STC) Stadium Seating, Digital, No Passes Fri 6:55-9 Stadium Seating, Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 3:20-6:55-9 Stadium Seating, Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 12:10-3:20-6:55-9  
 A Thousand Words (STC) Stadium Seating, Digital Fri 6:50-9:30 Stadium Seating, Digital Sat-Sun 3:25-6:50-9:30 Stadium Seating, Digital Mon-Thu 12:20-3:25-6:50-9:30  
 The Vow (STC) Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:10

## Bridgewater

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Act of Valor (STC) Fri 6:40-9:15 Sat-Sun 3:20-6:40-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:15  
 The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (STC) Mon-Thu 1:10-3:40  
 Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Mon-Thu 12:30-3:30  
 The Descendants (14) Fri 6:35-9:10 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:35-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:35-9:10  
 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (STC) Sat-Sun 2:50 Mon-Thu 1  
 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 6:55-9 Mon-Thu 3:20-6:55-9  
 Happy Feet Two (STC) Mon-Thu 1:20-3:50  
 The Iron Lady (STC) Fri 6:45-9:20 Sat-Sun 3:10-6:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:20  
 John Carter (STC) Sat-Sun 3 Mon-Thu 12:40  
 John Carter 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 6:30-9:25 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:25  
 Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (STC) Sat-Sun 2:40 Mon-Thu 12:50  
 Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 7:05 Mon-Thu 3:10-7:05  
 Project X (STC) No Passes Fri 7:15-9:35 No Passes Sat-Sun 3:30-7:15-9:35 Mon-Thu 1:30-4-7:15-9:35  
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## Amanda and Josh secretly dating: Us Weekly

Despite claims last month that she's happily single, Amanda Seyfried has reportedly been dating Josh Hartnett since January, according to Us Weekly.

The pair were set up by a mutual friend, sources say, and for now the relationship has been fairly casual.

"Josh likes to keep things low-key, so they've just been hanging out," a source says. **METRO**

## Jessica Simpson almost went on a bender while she was first preggo

Jessica Simpson says she found out she was pregnant thanks to some intuition right before a planned day of binge-drinking.

"We were going to have an all-day drinking binge," Simpson tells Elle magazine. "Going to ride our bikes, hang out, do naughty things. But I started feeling this overwhelming guilt. Why would I feel guilt at the idea of going out and having cocktails with my friends?"

Somehow she knew to take a pregnancy test, which obviously put the drinking marathon on hold.

"I'm a free-spirited girl, but giving up my scotch? My Macallan 18? That was hard for me," Simpson says of being pregnant. **METRO**



Jessica Simpson

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Does Will have a special friend?

## Star magazine flames the fire on Will Smith sexuality rumours



**THE WORD**  
Dorothy Robinson  
scene@metronews.ca

Star magazine is throwing their tabloid hands in the air and are just going for it. This week's cover story isn't shocking for what they're writing about, but rather what they're implying.

In a screaming headline that proclaims Will & Jada's Divorce Secret: The Man Who Came Between Them! the magazine goes on to say that Duane Martin, Tisha Campbell-Martin's husband, and Will Smith are just way too close, going on vacations to Miami, Trinidad and Las Vegas together.

A "source" practically outs Smith: "Jada can't stand Will's relationship with Duane. She feels like Will flaunts it in her face, hanging out with him

every day and taking him on exotic vacations while she's sitting home alone. Will and Jada's marriage is completely fractured, and it's only getting worse as Will spends more time away with Duane. I don't know how much longer they can live this way. It's only a matter of time until one of them makes the split official and files for divorce."

Of course, there have been whispers about both Will and Jada's sexuality for years, but no magazine has so blatantly gone there.

Unless, of course, I'm just totally reading into this and it's super hetero to go on a myriad of exotic vacations with just your best friend and not your wife?



Will Smith. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## Ashley Olsen says she's done with acting

While her younger sister, Elizabeth Olsen, is making a name for herself as an actress, former child star Ashley Olsen says she's done with on-camera work.

"[Mary-Kate and I] worked non-stop until we were 18. Then we decided to take a break and go to school — and that was when we decided to question whether we would carry on in entertainment," Ashley tells Elle UK.

"It was time to step behind the process. I wanted to work on other things. It doesn't mean I'm not interested in Hollywood. I like the way it operates and the people who are involved and the sense of possibility. But if

I ever do get back in, it's not going to be as an actress."

There's no word if twin sister Mary-Kate feels the same way. **METRO**



Ashley Olsen

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Photo: Sven Prim

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# 3

## LIFE

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### On the Web



Seattle plans 'food forest' park where people will be able to pick fruits, nuts

# These aren't your mom's ham & cheese sandwiches

Guinness Marinated Flank Steak Sandwiches with Grilled Onions and Boursin Cheese



Serve this dish as a meal with boiled potatoes and cabbage. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Guinness Marinated Flank Steak Sandwiches. This creation uses grilled onions and creamy Boursin cheese

The depth of flavour from the Guinness marinade in this recipe is enhanced by a touch of rich herb and garlic cheese that melts on the hot steak and onions.

Freeze the cheese to make it easier to shave just enough on the top of the grilled steak and onions. This prevents too much cheese from being layered on.

Onions are easier to grill without falling apart if you skewer them before cooking. Cut an onion into 1-cm (1/2-inch) thick slices. Thread the

centre of each onion with a bamboo skewer that has been soaked in water. Place the onion skewers on the cooking grates and turn once halfway through cooking.

1 Use paper towels to pat steak dry, then set it in a glass or stainless-steel container with a tight cover. Pour Guinness over steak. Set onion slices on top of steak, then cover container and refrigerate for 1 to 2 hours.

2 Heat a gas or charcoal grill to medium. Set cheese in freezer. Remove meat and onions from marinade and pat dry. Brush everything with a thin coat of olive oil, then season with salt and pepper. Place steak and onions on cooking grate over direct heat and sear for 6 to 8 minutes. Turn steak and onions

and sear on second side for another 6 to 8 minutes. (Alternatively, you also can sear steak and onions on a stovetop grill or grill pan for several minutes per side, then finish cooking in a 180 C/350 F oven set on a rack over a sheet pan.)

3 Transfer steak and onions to a platter. Remove cheese from freezer and use a vegetable peeler or paring knife to shave Boursin on top of steak and onions. Cover with foil and set aside. Brush each slice of bread with oil, then grill them until lightly toasted, 1 to 2 minutes. Thinly slice steak, then assemble sandwiches with bread, steak and onions. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ELIZABETH KARMEI, A GRILLING AND SOUTHERN FOODS EXPERT AND EXECUTIVE CHEF AT HILL COUNTRY BARBECUE MARKET RESTAURANTS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, AS WELL AS HILL**

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### Ingredients

4 portions  
Start to finish: 30 minutes  
active (plus 1-2 hour marinating)

- 1-kg (2-lb) flank steak or London broil, at least 2.5 cm (1 inch) thick
- 1 can (441 ml/14.9 oz) Guinness beer
- 2 large red onions, cut into 1-cm (1/2-inch) thick slices
- 1 small container Boursin cheese
- Olive oil
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper, to taste
- 8 thick slices country bread

### Liquid Assets

## 1 tequila, 2 tequila, 3 tequila, floor



**LIQUID ASSETS**  
Peter Rockwell  
@therealwineguy  
peterrockwell@eastlink.ca

When I was in university my party favour of choice was tequila. Nobody drank it seriously back then so I would channel my inner Charlie Sheen by bumming a beer and throwing back a few shots in-between sips of brew.

I sure impressed the ladies. At least I think it did. I can't seem to remember. Either way, I still have an affinity for Mexico's native spirit though today I'm more into how it mixes in cocktails.

I love the margarita because it's so easy make (all you need is tequila, Triple Sec orange liqueur and some lime juice) and it's one cocktail that really allows the booze elements to show through the mix.

A tequila purist would insist on the use of a white style as they typically do south of the border. I still prefer a gold tequila's richer flavour in my margs.

Tequila Cazadores Reposado (\$34.95 - \$39.99) is made with 100 per cent Blue Agave (the plant from which all true tequila is born) and is aged in new barrels (rather than the usual used bourbon casks). This all helps to enhance the spirit's citrusy aroma and up-front vegetal/spice expression.

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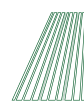
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4

SPORTS



## In brief

Carleton Ravens sophomore guard Philip Scrubb (pictured) was named the most outstanding player in Canadian Interuniversity Sport men's basketball on Thursday, claiming the Mike Moser Memorial Trophy at the annual awards banquet. Ravens head coach Dave Smart was named coach of the year for the fifth time in his career. Among the others honoured on Thursday were Cape Breton Capers guard Jimmy Dorsey as a first-team all-Canadian, Acadia Axemen centre Owen Klassen as a second-team all-Canadian, and Saint Mary's Huskies guard Brian Rouse as an all-rookie team selection.



St. Francis Xavier X-Men guard Terry Thomas in game action Atlantic University Sport Final 6 men's basketball championship. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

# Terry Thomas an X-factor for the X-men

**CIS Final 8 tournament.** Thomas, X-Men prepare to face Concordia Stingers in Friday's 8:15 p.m. quarter-final



**MATTHEW WUEST**  
Metro in Halifax

It hasn't taken Terry Thomas long to become an impact player for the St. Francis Xavier X-Men.

After a year of coming off the bench in an energy role

as a rookie, the six-foot-four guard has added scoring ability to his already impressive defensive play, rebounding and athleticism, and has blossomed into one of the top players in the country.

Thomas, who split his high school years between East Preston and Brampton, Ont., was third in Atlantic University Sport men's basketball scoring and earned second-team all-Canadian honours on Thursday.

"First year, just to get some minutes on this team, I had to be a defensive player, and I really worked hard on that," said Thomas, who averaged 18.9 points and 8.1 rebounds

per game. "This year, I've worked on my offence and on my 1-on-1 game and it's really helped me out."

Thomas is a limber, long-armed leaper who contributes to the X-Men in all areas of the game. He finished in the top five in a whopping five AUS statistical categories: scoring (18.9 points per game), rebounds (8.1 per game), field-goal percentage (.559), steals (2.6 per game) and blocks (1.0 per game).

He spent the summer in the gym dedicating multiple daily sessions to improving his offensive skills.

"As a rookie, he was an explosive player who got a lot

of his points off offensive rebounds, and he still does that, but now he can shoot the ball, he can put it on the floor, he can go through the defence in transition," said X-Men head coach Steve Konchalski. "He's becoming a complete player."

The X-Men strive to play a high-energy game, which is tailor-made for Thomas.

"I like scoring in transition so it kind of adds to my game," Thomas said.

With three years of eligibility remaining, Thomas isn't just a big part of the X-Men's present, he'll be a big part of their future, too.

"The sky's the limit," Konchalski said.

## Acadia Axemen

## 'Perfectionist' Baur seeks upset

It's safe to take the "inexperienced" tag off Steve Baur.

In four seasons since taking over as head coach of the Acadia Axemen following the sudden resignation of Les Berry, Baur — a Sackville native who was just 28 when he got the job — has rebuilt the squad into an Atlantic University Sport champion once again.

"It's really nice to get us back to this stage, it feels good," said Baur. "We know where we started with this group, bringing them in and helping them go through a couple of bumps along the way, but to get to this spot now is really exciting for us."

The eighth-seeded Axemen head into their second straight Final 8 under Baur with a daunting first-round matchup against the top-ranked Carleton Ravens, a team led by five-time CIS coach of the year Dave Smart.

Baur is no stranger to coaches with that kind of experience after facing the likes of Ross Quackenbush (23 years) and Steve Konchalski (37 years) at last weekend's Final 6.

"When you get out on the floor, it gets a little nerve-racking, but after a couple of years in the league, you settle in," Baur said, who admitted to getting fooled "every now and then" by the cagey veterans.

Berry's Axemen knocked off the Ravens in a semifinal double-overtime thriller in 2008, and Baur hopes he can duplicate that feat on Friday at 2:15 p.m. If he doesn't, it won't be for lack of preparation.

"He keeps us really disciplined," said Owen Klassen, Acadia's star centre. "He pays attention to detail and he's a perfectionist."

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

## CIS Final 8 team previews



### Carleton Ravens

**1** Defending champs are

31-0 against CIS competition with a frightening 37.6 point average margin of victory ... Winners of seven of the past nine national titles, including six straight championships at the Metro Centre.



### Alberta Golden Bears

**2** Went 14-6 before winning four straight in the playoffs to capture Canada West crown ... Six-foot-seven Jordan Baker averaged a double-double (19.1 points, 10.5 rebounds) ... Three-time national champs last won in 2002.



### Concordia Stingers

**3** Concordia's third Final

8 appearance in four years ... Quebec champs had a 16-2 record against conference competition, 7-4 against the rest of the country ... Guard Kyle Desmarais (13.9 points per game) led team in scoring.



### Lakehead Thunder-Wolves

**4** Ranked second in CIS for most of season ... Went 20-2 before falling to Ryerson in Ontario semifinals ... Came closer to knocking off Carleton than any other team in CIS, losing by three points (88-85) on Nov. 26.



### Fraser Valley Cascades

**5** Making their first Final 8 appearance since joining the CIS in 2006-07 ... Led by guard Joel Friesen (16.8 points per game) ... Went 20-7 versus CIS competition and lost to Alberta in Canada West final.



### St. Francis Xavier X-Men

**6** Spent entire season ranked in CIS top-10, starting at second and finishing at seventh ... Went 16-4 but upset by Acadia in AUS final ... Three-time champs are seeking first title since back-to-back wins in 2000 and 2001.



### Ryerson Rams

**7** Regular season record of

13-9 tied them for sixth among Ontario teams, but Ryerson upset Lakehead in Ontario semifinals to qualify for nationals ... Suffered 43-point blowout loss to Ravens in Ontario final.



### Acadia Axemen

**8** The No. 1 three-point

shooting team in the AUS (.372) rode hot shooting to knock off St. F.X. in the conference final ... Saddled with the eighth seed because of sticky CIS seeding rules that pushed Ryerson to No. 7. METRO

## At Metro Centre Friday

- Quarter-finals.** (5) Fraser Valley vs. (4) Lakehead, noon, (8) Acadia vs. (1) Carleton, 2:15 p.m., (7) Ryerson vs. (2) Alberta, 6 p.m., (6) St. F.X. vs. (3) Concordia, 8:15 p.m.
- Saturday.** **Consolation semifinals.** 4-5 loser vs. 1-8 loser, noon, 2-7 loser vs. 3-6 loser, 2:15 p.m. **Semifinals.** 4-5 winner vs. 1-8 winner, 6 p.m., 2-7 winner vs. 3-6 winner, 8:15 p.m.
- Sunday. Fifth-place game.** Consolation semifinal winners, 11 a.m. **Bronze-medal game.** Semifinal losers, 1:15 p.m. **Championship.** Semifinal winners, 4:30 p.m.





Halifax Rainmen guard Chris Hagen drives to the basket against the Quebec Kebs earlier this season.  
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

# Rainmen not hung up on past

**Basketball.** Rainmen head to Quebec to open NBL Canada best-of-three semifinals against Kebs on Sunday at 2 p.m.



**MATTHEW WUEST**  
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Don't read too much into the last meeting between the Halifax Rainmen and the Quebec Kebs.

The Rainmen, who open the National Basketball League of Canada best-of-three semifinal on Sunday at 2 p.m. on the road in Quebec, smashed the Kebs by 52 points on Feb. 26 in the biggest blowout by any team in

## Brown is back

The Rainmen reinstated guard Taliek Brown on Thursday after a one-game suspension to deal with undisclosed "personal matters." Brown is an all-star who averages 12.9 points per game.

the league's five-month history.

It's not a sign of things to come, according to the Rainmen.

"They were tired and they didn't come out with their best effort when we played them up in Quebec," said centre Richard Anderson. "We know it's going to be a dogfight. The whole series is going to be tough. Every other game we played

against them has been tough and we have to come out and play hard from the beginning."

Aside from the 52-point shellacking, the Rainmen won four out of five meetings, including narrow victories by just one and four points.

While that would indicate the Rainmen have the edge, the Kebs are no slouches. They're the only team in the league with three wins over the powerful London Lightning and boast all-stars Yannick Anzuluni, Ralphie Holmes and Ricky Volcy.

"They have some really good, solid scorers, inside and out, but if we focus on defence and have a good mentality on defence, we can win the series," said Rainmen guard Justin Johnson.

# 'They got better and better and we got worse'

**QMJHL.** Mooseheads blown out on road by Wildcats with playoffs around the corner

The Halifax Mooseheads have gone from one extreme to another.

A day after their most lopsided win of the QMJHL season, 7-0 over the Bathurst Titan at home, the Mooseheads suffered their biggest blowout loss of the campaign, falling 7-1 to the Moncton Wildcats on the road on Thursday.

The drubbing comes with just 10 days left in the regular season.

"We had an OK start, then we took a bad penalty, they scored, and from there, they got better and better and we just got worse,"



Alexandre Cote had the lone Halifax goal. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

said Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme.

Moncton scored twice in less than two minutes in the first period to get the early jump on Halifax and led

3-0 before Alexandre Cote put the Mooseheads on the board at 7:20 of the second. The Wildcats would add two more before the end of the second to go up 5-1 and two more in the third to finish it off.

Rookie goaltender Zach Fucale was pulled after allowing five goals on 19 shots as the Mooseheads were outshot 34-25 overall.

"We didn't play with energy so we had no chance coming back," Ducharme said. "They played with more confidence on the other side, with more energy, and we just couldn't keep up."

The Mooseheads, 37-21-6, are off until next week, when they host their final two games of the regular season against the P.E.I. Rocket on Monday and the Saint John Sea Dogs on Wednesday. **METRO**

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## Manitoba through to playoff

Manitoba lead Derek Samagalski, right, celebrates his team's win over Northern Ontario with third Allan Lyburn on Thursday. Manitoba, Ontario, Alberta and Yukon and Northwest Territories made the playoffs. Ontario's Glenn Howard (10-1) and Manitoba's Rob Fowler (8-3) meet Friday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# MMA fighter hopes to stand out for skills, not gay porn past

**The Ultimate Fighter: Live.** Dakota Cochrane will battle to be one of 16 members to live in the TUF house when reality TV show airs on FX Canada

Dakota Cochrane's controversial past is no secret in the MMA world.

Now the question becomes how his brief stint in gay porn will play out when the new season of The Ultimate Fighter Live debuts Friday night.

Dealing with his past is nothing new for Cochrane, so he's ready for anything, he says.

"Of course it bothers me," he said this week on the set of the reality TV show, which

**'Not something I'd do again.'**

"There's no way in hell I would redo it cause I know the repercussions that would come with it."

Dakota Cochrane, cast in 'The Ultimate Fighter Live,' on his brief stint acting in gay porn

airs on FX Canada. "But I can't do much about it. I've kind of dealt with it since college, since the first time it came out.

The 25-year-old Cochrane — who is not gay and has a one-year-old son with fiancée Lacey — says he earned nearly \$80,000 from taping a series of gay videos while a college student at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, where he was a standout track athlete.

"I'm not going to try to hide it," he said. "If you type in on Google, it comes up pretty easy. It's just something I'm going to overcome."

While there has been plenty of buzz about his past, especially on MMA message boards, Cochrane is determined to stand out for his fighting abilities on the first season of the revamped show.

While Cochrane, who sports an 11-2 record, including an impressive victory over former WEC champion Jamie Varner, has been commended for being up front about his past, the issue will likely be a hot topic if the Nebraska native wins his first bout to become one of the 16 members to live in the TUF house.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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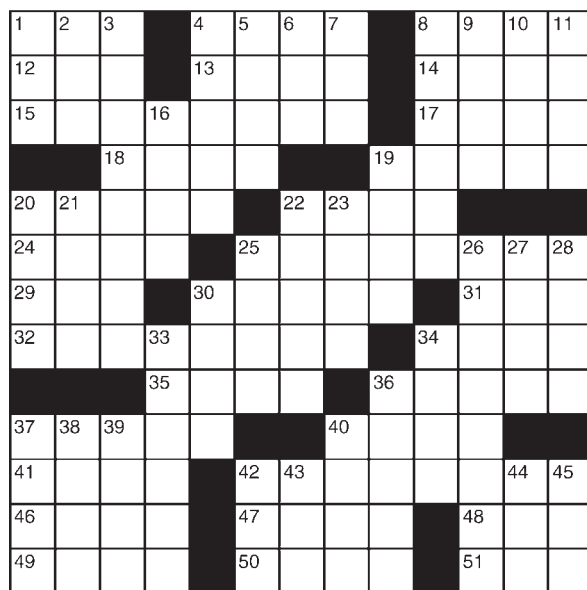


## Crossword

## Across

1 Corn spike  
4 Stow cargo  
8 Office note  
12 Life story, for short  
13 Lotion additive  
14 Acknowledge  
15 Unwanted repercussions  
17 Cleo's river  
18 Doctor's due  
19 Stopped a squeak  
20 Aesopian lesson  
22 Transcending (Pref.)  
24 Pavlov or Lendl  
25 Aped  
29 Calendar abbr.  
30 Paycheck extra  
31 Aye canceler  
32 Rorschach patterns  
34 "Phooey!"  
35 Tramp's love  
36 Syrup provider  
37 Talking bird  
40 Addition problems

41 Thy  
42 Group of sub-marines  
46 Youngster  
47 Fix a text  
48 Dove's call  
49 Gardening tools  
50 Ms. Moore  
51 Barbie's companion  
**Down**  
1 "Cabaret" lyricist  
2 Have a bug  
3 Car attachment  
4 Tag  
5 "Sad to say ..."  
6 Elmer, to Bugs  
7 "A mouse!"  
8 "Flashdance"



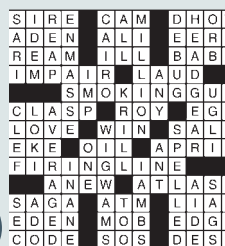
song  
9 Satanica  
10 Double agent  
11 Hadn't paid yet  
16 Slowly withdraw (from)  
19 Elevator name  
20 Calf-length  
21 It takes the cake  
22 Like some mouthwash  
23 Ostriches' kin  
25 Disposition  
26 Hiker's carryall  
27 Count counter-part  
28 Unit of force  
30 Mediocre

33 Trumpet sounds  
34 Moist  
36 Civies  
37 Legend  
38 Vacillate  
39 Use the microwave  
40 Slender  
42 Marry  
43 Praise in verse  
44 Miler Sebastian

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca



## Yesterday's answer



## Sudoku



## How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Yesterday's answer



## Send a kiss

- **One I'll Always Yearn For.** I keep telling myself he is not with me, don't miss him so much, but I can't help it, whenever I think of you I cry, will there ever be a solution? From Blind ignorant now too regretful and hopeful
- **Sisaboo.** I know you're going through a tough time right now, but keep your head up and stay strong like you always do. I've always admired your strength ever since we were little. But if you ever need somebody to lean on, you know I'll always be there. I love you. Life is tough, but you are tougher... 54L. Sister Bear
- **Tigress.** i feel ur roar, i swear i never meant to hurt you my love. i ain't a whore either, jealous of a little friend, eh? ... you say we deserve to be happy, but i need you to make me ;) Gazelle
- **Bum.** I am so proud of you. I know school is hard and there is so much going on in your life, but every night you stay up and talk to me. Even though you're there and I'm here, I dream of the day when we are finished school and together for good. I love you so much babe. Joshy Poo

## Horoscope

## ♈ Aries | March 21 - April

20. Your head may be full of great ideas but are they practical? That is the question you need to ask.

## ♉ Taurus | April 21 - May

21. You are where you are for a reason and your primary objective now should be to work out what that reason is. Look around.

## ♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20.

You will see or hear something that hands you the opportunity for which you have been waiting.

## ♋ Cancer | June 21 - July

22. It does not matter how many tasks you have to deal with today, you will breeze through them all without a care in the world.

## ♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22.

Someone is trying to deceive you and you will catch them red-handed today. Get tough.

## ♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22.

Someone is desperate for you to tell them how much you appreciate them. The good news is you will find it easy to open up.

## ♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22.

It may look as if you are getting the poor end of a deal, but over the next few weeks you will more than make up for it.

## ♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21.

Do something meaningful, something that makes a difference. The possibilities are endless.

## ♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 -

Dec. 21. Some people will be a little bit demanding today and it seems you have little choice but to do as they say.

## ♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan

20. This is one of the best times to get out and about and trade opinions with people.

## ♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb

18. You will have to make sacrifices over the next two or three days but each and every one of them will be worth it.

## ♓ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20.

The Sun in your sign means there is no better time to find ways to improve yourself. **SALLY BROMPTON**

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## Caption Contest

"Come on, get your head in the game, son!"

Kayla

PATRICK SEMANSKY/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Win!



## You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to [play@metronews.ca](mailto:play@metronews.ca) — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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**LOOK AGAIN** SPOT THE 10 DIFFERENCES IN THESE TWO IMAGES.

**Chicago, Illinois** – The 2012 Chevrolet Volt is taking a leisurely drive through the downtown core. It's the first electric vehicle with extended range to go wherever you want, whenever you want. This car is perfect for any road trip – no matter the distance.



Answers: 1. Direction of arrow changed left of the 2012 Chevrolet Volt. 2. 6 pm changed to 9 pm on road sign. 3. Colour of flower bed changed from red to yellow. 4. Garbage can moved closer to group of people. 5. Sign colour changed from blue to red at the top right of image. 6. Window from building removed right of the group of people. 7. Shadow pattern altered left of the 2012 Chevrolet Volt. 8. Manhole cover removed right of the 2012 Chevrolet Volt. 9. White stripe removed from the centre pole. 10. Bolt removed from the top left of the 2012 Chevrolet Volt.



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